

Nebraska as a matter of fact, and I'm proud of that. I've been in education, my older sister is in education, we are an education family. And I, like Senator Korshoj, have always supported state aid to education. I have always been saying that the State of Nebraska has always fallen short on its promises of giving state aid to education, but I cannot support the Kristensen amendment. And, of course, I voted yes so that I could reconsider, Senator Lynch simply beat me to the punch. I don't want to repeat what Senator Withem said. He talked about long-range property tax. I want to hit another topic that I think closely relates. Senator Dierks, for example, said that this would give property tax relief. Though I know the Syracuse Study's numbers were incorrect, the basic thrust of the Syracuse Study showed that significant increases in state aid in the State of Nebraska has not significantly reduced property taxes and I think this body knows that. I think the body realizes that this will have no effect on property taxes, so let's not vote this because it will help property taxes. My major contention is really what an article, a series of articles that appeared not too long ago about this body, about a lack of leadership, and I questioned those articles and I said I don't think that is right. We don't have particular senators that the Legislature has known for from years back. I think we have a different make of a Legislature, a different kind of leadership where we work with consensus, we work better with people. But I am getting a little bit concerned that at some point we in the body must take some leadership role in this state. At some point we have to say, we can't do any more. State aid to education, I can't think of a higher goal. I would like to do some things for day care centers, for mentally retarded, for a hundred other programs that are underfunded, that need more money, that we've already had to say no to. It's time I think for the Legislature, we only have five days left, it's time sometime, and I think the time is now for the Legislature to say to ourselves, we must take the lead. We must understand as we all do that enough is enough. We must understand that it is a difficult decision, but it must be made. Education is going to do well in this state. Higher education will do well with the budget that we have in LB 813 and LB 814. We're going to have some long-term property tax solutions on school refinancing in LB 611. We have special programs for the handicapped that are being funded, that the schools will have aid for and those haven't been talked about. In many, many bills of which schools are involved, this Legislature...